

Message Text

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ACTION FAA-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 EB-07 DOTE-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EPG-02 SS-15 NSC-05
L-03 PA-01 PRS-01 PM-04 SP-02 /057 W
-----047848 140924Z /20

R 140647Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2329

INFO FAA GUAM

FAA HONOLULU

FAA YOKOTA

13AF CLARK

CINCPACAF HICKAM AFBHI/JA

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI/JA

CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI

CINCPACREPPHIL SUBIC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 10822

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, RP

SUBJECT: CLEARANCE FOR FAA PLANES INTO PHILIPPINES

REF: (A) 13TH AF CLARK P 220045Z JUN 77 (B) STATE 148705

(C) HQPACAF HICKAM R 271945Z (D) MANILA 9175

1. EMBASSY OFFICER JOE WILLIAMS ACCOMPANIED BY LTC GERALD SHINN, USAF, 1961ST COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION (RESPONSIBLE FOR AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL AT CLARK AFB), CALLED ON PHILIPPINE AIR FORCE, 1ST AIR DIVISION CHIEF OF STAFF AND OPERATIONS OFFICER CRUES AND HERNANDO (COMMANDING GENERAL BUENO IS CURRENTLY IN HOSPITAL). PURPOSE OF CALL WAS INFORMAL ATTEMPT TO PERSUADE 1ST AIR DIVISION TO STATUS QUO ANTE HERNANDO'S LETTER OF MAY 30, 1977; I.E., CLEARANCES OF FAA CALIBRATION FLIGHTS BY LETTECUTO 1ST AIR DIVISION RATHER THAN BY DIPLOMATIC NOTE. DISCUSSIONS WERE FRIENDLY AND FRANK BUT NOT RPT
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NOT CLEARLY PRODUCTIVE.

2. COLONEL HERNANDO TOOK LEAD IN POINTING OUT THAT REGULATIONS OF PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT CALL FOR DIPLOMATIC CLEARANCE. (ALTHOUGH HERNANDO DID NOT SPECIFICALLY RAISE THIS POINT, THE OBVIOUS INFERENCE IS THAT USG OWNED FAA AIRCRAFT ON CONTRACT TO BASES ARE NOT RPT NOT CONSIDERED

"MILITARY" IN SENSE OF BASES AGREEMENT.) HERNANDO WAS, HOWEVER, VERY RECEPTIVE TO ESTABLISHING EMERGENCY PROCEDURES TO CLEAR FAA CALIBRATION FLIGHTS ON VERY SHORT NOTICE. COLONEL CREUS PROPOSED THAT EMBASSY MIGHT REQUEST THAT CLEARANCE BY LETTER BE CONTINUED AS A SPECIAL PROCEDURE. EMBOFF REPLIED THT HE COULD NOT COMMENT ON THIS APPROACH BUT WOULD CONSIDER IT. IN ANY CASE, HERNANDO INDICATED THAT HE WAS NOT RPT NOT SURE THAT SPECIAL CONSIDERATION WOULD BE POSSIBLE SINCE PHILIPPINE REGULATIONS EXPRESSLY CALL FOR DIPLOMATIC CLEARANCE.

3. EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE EFFORTS TO ATTAIN OBJECTIVES SET OUT IN REFTELS OF INSURING ENTRANCE OF FAA AIRCRAFT INTO PHILIPPINES WITHOUT EXCESSIVE DELAY AND MAKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR IMMEDIATE ENTRY IN EMERGENCY CASES. IN FACT, THIS HAS ALREADY BEEN LARGELY ACCOMPLISHED. WE HAVE SOME QUESTION THOUGH, AS TO HOW MUCH RESISTANCE SHOULD BE OFFERED TO REQUIREMENTS TO SEEK CLEARANCE THROUGH DFA VICE DIRECTLY FROM 1ST AIR DIVISION.

4. FAA AIRCRAFT ARE NOT MILITARY AIRCRAFT AND ARE NOT REATED AS SUCH, AS EVIDENCED BY THE FACT THAT THE EMBASSY IS ALREADY INVOLVED IN SECURING CLERANCE FOR THEM. THE PREROGATIVE OF THE HOST GOVERNMENT TO DESIGNATE ADDRESSEE FOR SUCH CLEARANCE REQUESTS SEEMS INDISPUTABLE.
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5. ALTHOUGH WE ARE MAKING STRONG PITCH THAT BECAUSE OF THEIR GOVERNMENTAL CHARACTER AND MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL MISSION RELATED TO THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, OPERATION AND DEFENSE OF BASES, FAA AIRCRAFT SHOULD NOT BE REQUIRED TO OBTAIN SPECIAL CLEARANCE, IT APPEARS THAT THE PHILS HAVE ALL THE TECHNICAL CARDS IN THEIR HANDS. IF OBJECTIVE OF EARY ENTRY CAN BE OBTAINED, AS WE BELIEVE WOULD BE THE CASE, IT WOULD APPEAR TO BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE TO EXAGGERATE ISSUE OF TO WHOM CLEARANCE REQUESTS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED. WE WOULD NOT RECOMMEND REFERRAL TO THE MDB UNLESS PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES ARE ENCOUNTERED IN AIRCRAFT CLEARANCE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIRCRAFT, FLIGHT CLEARANCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MANILA10822
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770250-0801
Format: TEL
From: MANILA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770758/aaaabxxo.tel
Line Count: 108
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1187566b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION FAA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 148705, 77 MANILA 9175
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1863061
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CLEARANCE FOR FAA PLANES INTO PHILIPPINES
TAGS: EAIR, RP
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1187566b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009